जिसके लिए कोई सरकारी सेवक अथवा उसके परिवार का कोई सदस्य हकदार होगा, फिलहाल किसी सहायता प्राप्त चिकित्सीय परिचर्या योजना के अधीन लागू विदेश मंत्रालय के उसी ग्रेड के भारतीय विदेश सेवा के अधिकारी के व्यय के मापमान और पात्रता के सदृश होगा।

Production of Indigenous vaccine for Hepatitis—B

969. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1.5 lakh people die every year due to Hepatitis—B in comparison to AIDS which took toll of 367 in India last year as revealed in the conference held in Hyderabad in mid June, 1997; and

(b) if so, the efforts made to produce indigenously developed vaccine in Hyderabad for life-time immunity against Hapatitis-B?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No reliable data is available to estimate deaths due to Hepatitis-B infection.

However the sequrale of persistent infection which include chronic active hapatitis, liver cirrhosis and carcinoma may lead to death in the case of Chronic carriers of Hepatitis-B virus.

(b) Two Hyderabad based companies, viz., M/s Shanta Biotechnics Private Limited and M/s Bharat Biotec International Limited have made some headway in producing test samples of recombinant type Hepatitis-B vaccine. Testing and analysis of the samples are in progress.

Derecognition of Foreign Medical Degrees by MCI

970. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India has derecognised some foreign medical degrees;

(b) if so, what are those Medical degreess and the names of the universities of different countries whose degrees have been derecognised; and

(c) the reasons for the derecognition of those degrees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWEDURY): (a) to (c) Medical degrees awared by 29 institutions of the erstwhile USSR stood recognised by the Central Government. However, after the disintegration of the former USSR, complaints have been received by the Medical Council of India regarding falling educational standard of some of these institutions. Medical Council of India would be taking up the matter with the concerned institution with a view to ascertaining full facts to enable it to recommend to the Government of India whether the medical degrees of these 29 institutions should continue to be recognised or some of them should be derecognised.

Treatment Abroad by Government Functionaries and MPs

971. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge expenditure is being incurred on account of treatment of senior government functionaries and MPs abroad;

(b) if so, whether guidelines issued by Government for treatment abroad are followed strictly in each and every case;

(c) whether with the availability of state-of-the-art treatment in the select hospitals of the country, any appreciable decline in treatment abroad has been noticed; and

(d) if so, what are the comparative figures for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The cases for treatment abroad are dealt